

ILLINOIS ACA IMPLEMENTATION

PREPARING FOR 2014

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Governor Committed to ACA

- ❑ Established Health Care Reform Implementation Council, July 2010
- ❑ The Council recommended state-exchange with potential for active purchaser role
- ❑ Declaration letter to the federal government stating Illinois intention to establish state exchange but participate in a federal partnership the first year

Council Recommendations

- ❑ Establish a state-based exchange as a quasi-governmental entity.
- ❑ Enact legislation that brings Illinois law into compliance with ACA standards governing internal appeals and external review processes.
- ❑ Engage employers, consumers, and insurers to develop an aggressive and culturally sensitive outreach plan.
- ❑ Aggressive implementation of the Illinois Health Information Exchange (HIE) Strategic and Operational Plan.

Establishing an Exchange

- ❑ Department of Insurance has used federal funding to prepare the state to operate a Health Insurance Exchange.
- ❑ Assessed the marketplace, estimated costs, and engaged health providers, insurers, consumer advocates and the business community to understand exchange-related issues.

Funding



- ❑ The state received a \$1 million Planning Grant for the Exchange on September 30, 2010.
- ❑ In the fall of 2011, the state received a \$5 million Level One Establishment Grant.
- ❑ On May 16, 2012, Illinois received a second Level One Establishment Grant for \$32 million.

Current Progress

- The State awarded contract to design and implement an integrated eligibility system (IES).
 - ▣ The state expects to receive more than \$125 million in federal funding to build the IES.
- July: The State issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit a vendor to build the technical infrastructure for the state-based exchange.
 - ▣ \$28 million contract to be announced in November/December

Essential Health Benefits

- ❑ The ACA required the state to recommend to the Department of Health and Human Services the Essential Health Benefits benchmark plan by September 30, 2012.
- ❑ The state could choose from one of the largest small group plans, state employee plans, federal employee plans or the largest commercial HMO. The benchmark was required to represent a “typical employer plan” already sold in the state.

Essential Health Benefits

- ❑ Governor's Health Care Reform Implementation Council established an EHB workgroup to recommend the EHB benchmark plan. The Council also solicited and received comments from the public.
- ❑ The Council approved the BlueCross BlueShield of Illinois BlueAdvantage small group plan supplemented with:
 - ▣ Pediatric Vision – The federal BlueVision package
 - ▣ Pediatric Dental—The AllKids dental package

Partnership

- ❑ The partnership model is a bridge to a state-based exchange.
- ❑ Allows the state to take the lead on plan management and in-person consumer assistance functions of the exchange.
- ❑ The rest of the functions will be run by the Federally Facilitated Exchange (FFE).
- ❑ Under a partnership model, the exchange is funded through an assessment on insurers selling on the exchange.

Medicaid Expansion

- ❑ Illinois plans to expand Medicaid to align with the requirements of the Affordable Care Act
- ❑ Planning efforts are underway to achieve this goal including identifying the benchmark package of benefits that will be available for the expansion population
- ❑ Recognize the importance for expanding coverage in Illinois through Medicaid
 - ▣ About 350,000 newly eligible for Medicaid

Medicaid Benchmark Plan



- ❑ Benefits and services provided to the newly-eligible Medicaid population.
- ❑ The Department of Healthcare and Family Services is leading the effort in defining the Medicaid benchmark plan and seeking input from stakeholders.

Medicaid Benchmark Plan

- The benchmark plan must include:
 - ▣ Ten categories of Essential Health Benefits (EHBs): ambulatory services; emergency services; hospitalization; maternity and newborn care; mental health and substance use disorder services, including behavioral health treatment; prescription drugs; rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices; laboratory services; preventive and wellness services and chronic disease management; and pediatric services, including oral and vision care
 - ▣ EPSDT for any child under age 21 covered under the state plan
 - ▣ Services provided by federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and rural health clinics (RHCs)
 - ▣ Non-emergency transportation
 - ▣ Family planning services and supplies

Other ACA Implementation Efforts

- Illinois has received more than \$200 million ACA implementation
 - ▣ Community health center development and improvement, workforce development and training, and prevention
- Focusing on innovative strategies to coordinate care and reduce health care costs
- Health Care Reform Implementation Council has held public meetings on: workforce development, electronic health records, improving quality care, Navigators and outreach, Essential Health Benefits and other topics

Other ACA Implementation Efforts

- Community Transformation Grant (*We Choose Health*):
 - ▣ The Illinois Department of Public Health was awarded a multi-million dollar grant through ACA funds to implement activities throughout Illinois that focus on:
 - Tobacco-free living, active living and healthy eating, quality clinical and other preventive services, social and emotional wellness, and fostering healthy and safe physical environments
 - ▣ *We Choose Health* is funding efforts by local organizations, health providers, schools, businesses and other community groups statewide other than in Cook, Kane, DuPage, Lake and Will counties.
- Workforce development: continuing conversations with stakeholders on ways to address the public health workforce needs in Illinois.

Next Steps for Illinois



- ❑ Submit Partnership Blueprint Application
- ❑ Pass establishing legislation for the exchange and Medicaid expansion
- ❑ Implement plan management/consumer assistance functions
- ❑ Monitor the EHB process
- ❑ Prepare for state-based exchange
- ❑ Plan for Medicaid expansion
- ❑ Continue effort towards workforce development



Governor's Office Health Reform website

www.healthcarereform.illinois.gov

Department of Insurance

www.insurance.illinois.gov

Federal Health Care Reform website

www.healthcare.gov